COUNTRY Indochina JONI IDLIVITAL SUBJECT Sinc-Tonkinese Boxder Activities

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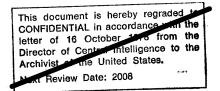
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Although the Chinese bandits operating along the Sino-Tonkinese frontier are calling themselves Communists and are assisting the Viet Minh, the French official military and civil authorities have not found any evidence that these bandits are directed by Chinese Communists, or even that there is liaison between them and the Chinese Communists.

- There is meager evidence that Chinese pirates are well armed and are supplying the Viet Minh with modern American arms. French official circles do not think there has been much change in the total number of Chinese pirates operating along the frontier, which they still estimate at about 30,000.
- Governor Digo, French Commissioner in Tonkin, stated that roving bands of Chinese pirates were calling themselves Communists to encourage the Viet Minh to accept their aid, both physical and material, against the French. Some of these bands have joined forces with Viet Minh troops to whom they are supplying modern American arms and ammunition, Governor Digo asserted.



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